Booth Library will be celebrating National Library Week during the week of April 11 through April 17, 2010, and will host several events and exhibitions.

On Monday, April 12, the library will be hosting “An Evening with Neil Gaiman” from 5 to 7 p.m. in Booth Library Conference Room 4440. As Honorary Chair of National Library Week, Gaiman will speak during this live streaming videoconference about his lifelong love of libraries and the role they play in a democratic society by supporting intellectual freedom and privacy. This event is coordinated by the American Library Association’s Campaign for America’s Libraries and the Jessamine County (KY) Public Library, in collaboration with HarperCollins Children’s Books, Internet2, and the University of Minnesota.

The annual book sale will be held outside the north entrance of the library on Wednesday, April 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The library requests no advance sales. A large selection of books in all subject areas and hundreds of paperback fiction titles will be available for sale. All items have been donated by the campus community. The proceeds from the sale are used to enhance library programs and services.

During National Library Week, the library will also be holding a daily trivia contest from Monday, April 12 to Friday, April 16. The question of the day will be located at the Circulation Desk, along with forms and an entry box. Each day a winner drawn at random will receive a small prize; the winner's name will be posted along with the correct answer on the following day. All entrants are eligible for the grand prize (four tickets to the White Sox vs. Marlins game on Saturday, May 22, generously donated by a member of the Booth Library staff). The grand prize drawing will take place on Monday, April 19, at 11 a.m. at the Circulation Desk.

More information about National Library Week can be found on the Booth Library Facebook page.

Booth Library Developing an Exhibit on Education

Booth Library is in the process of developing an exhibition to provide an historical look at the training of teachers and Normal schools in Illinois, including an overview of school life in Illinois. Programming related to this exhibition will be offered during October 2010, to coincide with the reaccreditation visit of Eastern’s teacher certification program by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Faculty members are invited to participate in the exhibition events as a lecturer, participant in a panel discussion, or by encouraging student presentations. If you are interested in participating, please contact Peggy Manley by April 30, by calling 581-6063 or via e-mail at pamanley@eiu.edu. In addition to the wealth of information being gleaned from the materials housed in University Archives and Special Collections, the project also involves Illinois residents who are providing stories and artifacts related to their school experience. Although Eastern will be featured, education at all levels from around the state will be included. Anyone interested in providing information or materials for an ancillary exhibit is encouraged to contact the library online at library.eiu.edu/schoolmemories or call (217) 581-6061.
Effingham High School Students Visit Booth

Approximately 110 upperclassmen from Effingham High School visited Booth Library on Monday, March 15. Students received small group tours conducted by six librarians. In addition to learning how the library’s collections are organized, students received instruction in how to conduct research for their term papers.

After the tour, students spent the rest of the morning and afternoon doing individual research with the assistance of librarians.

Research / Creativity Award Winners To Be Announced

Judging is currently underway for Booth Library’s first annual Awards for Student Research and Creativity. The awards program encourages students to utilize the wealth of information available at Booth Library to enhance their studies.

Submissions in a variety of formats were received by the April 1 deadline. Each entry will become a part of the Booth Library Student Research and Creativity Collection. Entries will be judged by a jury consisting of members of the Library Advisory Board, the Library Faculty, and other invited specialists. Winning entries will be selected based on excellence, creativity, and use of library research sources. Awards consist of a certificate and a cash prize. Additionally, some entries may receive Certificates of Merit or Honorable Mention. Names of award recipients will be announced during National Library Week, April 11-17. Faculty members who mentor student research are encouraged to tell students about this new opportunity. Submissions for next year will be accepted in the spring semester.